



## Swedish American Green Alliance

*Bi-Monthly Newsletter*



### First Meeting of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition Brings Five New Members

Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern participated in the successful inaugural meeting of the [Climate and Clean Air Coalition \(CCAC\)](#) in Stockholm on April 24.

The CCAC agreed on a number of initiatives to fast track momentum to reduce black carbon, methane and a range of fluorinated gases,

HFCs. Colombia, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, European Commission and World Bank joined the coalition, which was launched in February 2012 by the US, Sweden, Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

### IKEA and American Forests Plant 2 M Trees

Swedish furniture company IKEA has planted two million trees across America. Through the IKEA "Plant A Tree" program, in partnership with American Forests, these trees helped restore vulnerable ecosystems and endangered habitats.

IKEA says the trees provide enough oxygen for one million people each year, and remove and store the carbon dioxide emissions of 10,000 average cars over each car's life-span. [Read more.](#)

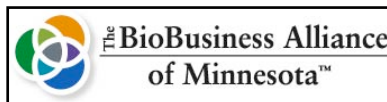
#### SAGA Success Story

##### SAGA Promotes US-Sweden Exchanges on Urban Sustainability

The Swedish American Green Alliance (SAGA) and the National League of Cities partnered to bring four locally elected U.S. officials from Baltimore, Cleveland, Dubuque and St Paul to exchange best practices with counterparts in Stockholm and Malmö in urban sustainability. In Stockholm, the delegation toured Hammarby Sjöstad, a former industrial district that is now an international model for sustainable, integrated redevelopment. The city representatives also met journalists, NGOs, Members of Parliament and students. You can read more about the visit [here](#).



SAGA is also partnering with Sustainable Sweden to send five Swedish graduate students, under a program dubbed [REACT U.S.](#), to conduct two weeks of research on urban sustainability in Boulder, Colorado; Madison, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Portland, Oregon; or Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The Swedish students are from Dalarna, Stockholm, Västerbotten and Västergötland. Read the [students' blog posts here](#).



## Swedish Forestry Research Institute and Itasca Community College Boost Bio Energy

The Forestry Research Institute of Sweden, Skogforsk, and the Itasca Community College (ICC) in Grand Rapids, Minnesota will jointly develop a research program to create methods, systems and technology for the forest-based bioenergy supply chain in Minnesota. ICC is developing a campus strategy to increase use of biomass for energy, and create workforce development and training programs in the bioenergy sector. In a future phase, ICC plans to demonstrate effective use of woody biomass as a fuel source through enhancement of its al-

ready existing wood-fired boiler that serves the campus district heating loop. The collaboration is supported by BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota (BBAM) and Swedish Bioenergy Association (SVEBIO) and funded by the Swedish Energy Agency, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Blandin Foundation, Itasca Economic Development Corporation and the Area Partnership for Economic Expansion.

### SAGA Success Story

[Read more.](#)

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## GE Wind Turbine Tested in Gothenburg - Produces Electricity for 3,000 Homes

At the recent European Wind Energy Association's EWEA 2012 in Copenhagen, General Electric (GE) announced that its new offshore wind turbine (4.1-113), nicknamed "Big Glenn," located in Sweden's Gothenburg harbor, passed its initial trial run. GE's first direct-drive offshore wind turbine passed this reliability run on its first attempt with 99.05 percent

availability. Wind speed varied during the trial run from zero to rated wind, resulting in a capacity factor of 35.3 percent. The offshore wind turbine will produce electricity for more than 3,000 Swedish homes per year.



[Read more.](#)

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## 3M, BetaLED, GE, Honeywell and Skanska Greening US Embassy Stockholm

### SAGA Success Story

In April, GE and Skanska completed an HVAC and Lighting control demonstration project for US Embassy Stockholm's new conference room. This Embassy pilot follows demonstration projects by Honeywell on energy measurement and metering and BetaLED on Embassy perimeter lighting. Next month, 3M will complete installation of a demonstration window film radiant heat reduction product to reduce heat on the West side of the US Embassy. [Read more.](#)

